



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

Site:	NEW BEDFORD
Break:	4.1
Other:	47 629

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Valerie A. Talmage

Executive Director

State Historic Preservation Officer

March 12, 1985

John F. Hackler
MA/CT/VT Site Response Section
Superfund Branch
Environmental Protection Agency Region 1
JFK Building
Boston, MA 02203

RE: Acushnet River Estuary, New Bedford, Acushnet and Fairhaven

Dear Mr. Hackler:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting information on historic and archaeological resources which may be affected by the proposed remedial action to clean up the PCB-contaminated Acushnet River Estuary. Staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission have reviewed the materials you submitted.

The proposed project planning area includes on-shore, upland areas which are known or expected to contain important archaeological resources. MHC files contain record of at least one known archaeological site in the project planning area in Acushnet. Additional, previously unrecorded sites may also be present. The shores of the Acushnet are well known for their prehistoric and historic period Indian settlements as well as early Colonial and Federal period historic development.

MHC requests that an archaeological reconnaissance survey be conducted of the proposed project planning area in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Places Act of 1966 (36 CFR 800). The goal of the reconnaissance survey is to locate and identify areas within the project limits which are known or likely to contain significant historic or archaeological properties, and to recommend specific areas which would merit intensive archaeological survey. The results of the reconnaissance survey should be utilized by project planners in the design of the project to avoid impacts to potentially significant cultural resources.

Staff of the MHC are will to assist in developing an appropriate scope of work for the archaeological survey.

(continued)

If you have any questions, please contact Brona Simon, State Archaeologist at this office.

Sincerely,

Valerie A. Talmage

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Executive Director

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xc: Alan Randall, ACE Regulatory Branch
John Wilson, ACE Division Archaeologist
Advisory Council on Historic Preservation